



Angélica Infante-Green  
Commissioner

State of Rhode Island  
**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**  
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255 Westminster Street  
Providence, Rhode Island 02903-3400

**Enclosure 5b1**  
**December 7, 2021**

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TO: Members of the Council on Elementary and Secondary Education

FROM: Angélica Infante-Green, Commissioner *A. Infante*

RE: Blackstone Academy Charter School – Request for Charter Renewal

RECOMMENDATION:

**THAT, the Council on Elementary and Secondary Education moves to renew the charter of Blackstone Academy Charter School for three years beginning with school year 2022-23 and expiring at the end of school year 2024-25. Blackstone Academy Charter School holds the opportunity for an earned five-year renewal.**

**Under an earned five-year renewal, charter terms automatically extend to a five-year term (school year 2022-23 to school year 2026-27) if the charter receives 3-stars or higher on RIDE's accountability system by school year 2023-24. If the charter does not receive 3-stars or higher on RIDE's accountability system by the end school year 2023-24, then a three-year renewal recommendation becomes final.**

Enclosed Documents:

The following documents provide further detail regarding the Commissioner's recommendation and analysis contributing to that recommendation:

- Commissioner's Recommendation Overview: including an overview of the charter.
- RIDE's Renewal Report: containing detailed information regarding the performance of the charter and findings as a result of the renewal site visit.
- Charter's Response: including additional information and context provided independently by the charter in regard to the renewal recommendation and report.
- Annual Performance Dashboards: containing detail on performance ratings for each school and each year of the charter's term.

## Blackstone Academy Charter School Overview:

Current Charter Overview			
Charter Type	Independent	2020-21 Grades Served	9-12
School-Year Opened	2002	2020-21 Enrollment	353
Current Charter Term	2017-2022	Authorized Enrollment	350
Enrolling Communities	Pawtucket, Central Falls, Providence	Location(s)	334 Pleasant Street, Pawtucket, RI 02860

School Mission and Model	
School Mission:	<p>The mission of Blackstone Academy is to build a strong community of learners and leaders. In a small educational environment that fosters independent inquiry, teamwork, and communication, students develop the skills to solve problems and use their voice in ways that lead to success in the academic, social, and professional arenas.</p> <p>Students demonstrate their achievements through a process of discovery, presentation, and reflection shaped by active engagement in community life. This learning process begins with themselves, moves forward with an exploration of the local community, and ultimately integrates an understanding of the wider world as students become responsible, motivated, life-long learners.</p>
School Model:	<p>Blackstone Academy is centered on community involvement and improvement. As a graduation requirement, student must annually demonstrate successful and meaningful participation in their communities through job shadows, enrollment in their signature Community Improvement Projects (CIPs), internships, service-learning projects, and senior projects. These activities support their goal for students to gain skills that will help them to effect change in the local, regional, and/or global communities. Blackstone Academy emphasizes developing essential Habits of Mind (Collaboration, Gratitude, Community Engagement, Creativity, Grit, Humility, Optimism, Organization, "Upstanderness," Wellness, Zest, Self-Advocacy &amp; Integrity.)</p> <p>The school's academic program and portfolio system are guided by these Habits of Mind which are used to deliver both academic and social-emotional skills to all students. Portfolio completion is required annually.</p>

Recommendation Key Points:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Blackstone Academy is coming off a Five-Year Charter Term, during which they showed consistently exceptional organizational performance. They serve grades 9-12 for students in the cities most impacted by COVID-19 (Pawtucket, Providence, Central Falls)</li> <li>Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, the school earned three-stars on RIDE's accountability system.</li> <li>Blackstone Academy partners closely with the Barr Foundation</li> <li>The Barr Foundation recently asked Next Generation Learning Challenge (NGLC) to author a series of written profiles and podcasts about Blackstone Academy.</li> <li>These profiles highlight established and emerging practices and are intended to be available to schools across the country to be able to access as they consider redesign work.</li> <li>Over the 2020-21 academic year, they worked with NGLC to craft the content of these publications and now they are available to a national audience.</li> <li>When comparing Pre-COVID academic performance to Pawtucket high schools, math performance at Blackstone was behind the district high schools in percentage-proficient (though they did have a higher average scale score).</li> <li>Furthermore, SY2020-21 academic performance data in ELA is 25% proficiency with a 442 average scale score (compared to 26.6% proficiency with a 430 average scale score in Pawtucket) and math is 8.3% proficiency with a 427 average scale score (compared to 8.1% proficiency with a 408 average scale score in Pawtucket).</li> </ul>
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**Overview of Academic Performance:**

Test Name: SAT - ELA

	<b>SY17-18</b>	<b>SY18-19</b>	<b>SY20-21</b>
<b>Meeting (L3) or Exceeding Expectations (L4)</b>	41.6%	22.5%	25%
<b>Approaching Expectations (L2)</b>	36%	29.2%	40.3%
<b>Does Not Meet Expectations (L1)</b>	22.5%	48.3%	34.7%
<b>Average Growth Percentile</b>	N/A	51	N/A

Test Name: SAT - Math

	<b>SY17-18</b>	<b>SY18-19</b>	<b>SY20-21</b>
<b>Meeting (L3) or Exceeding Expectations (L4)</b>	15.7%	5.6%	8.3%
<b>Approaching Expectations (L2)</b>	51.7%	44.9%	41.7%
<b>Does Not Meet Expectations (L1)</b>	32.6%	49.4%	50%
<b>Average Growth Percentile</b>	N/A	54	N/A

Average Growth Percentile Key:

Low Growth	<b>1-34</b>
Typical Growth	<b>35-69</b>
High Growth	<b>70-99</b>

**Overview of Charter Performance Ratings:**

	<b>Indicators</b>	<b>SY17-18</b>	<b>SY18-19</b>	<b>SY19-20</b>	<b>SY20-21</b>
Academic	(1A) School Performance	A	M	NR	NR
	(1B) School Comparison	A	NA	NA	NA
Sustainability	(1) Financial	M	M	M	M
	(2) Organizational	E	E	E	E
	(3) Compliance	M	M	M	M

<b>Ratings Key</b>			
E	Exceeds Expectations	DNM	Does Not Meet Expectations
M	Meets Expectations	NR	Not Rated
A	Approaches Expectations	NA	Not Applicable

# Blackstone Academy

## Renewal Report | 2021

### ABOUT THIS REPORT

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Since 2016-17, RIDE has utilized a [Charter School Performance Review System](#), which was created in collaboration with a committee of charter school practitioners and the National Association of Charter School Authorizers. This system was created to increase transparency of charter performance review, provide clarity on charter's performance annually, and ensure consistency of decisions that prioritize the school's academic performance.

Blackstone Academy received a five-year renewal in 2016-17. This report comprises performance ratings for the previous three years of the charter's term (2019-20 and 2020-21). The 2019-20 school year, the third year of the current charter term, this school did not receive an academic rating due to COVID-19 pandemic impact on statewide testing. The school was able to generate financial and organizational data for each year. Performance ratings utilize data from school-generated annual reports and other RIDE monitoring results. During this renewal process, RIDE did not provide initial renewal tier designations. The impact of the pandemic left the school without two most recent years of available academic data, to inform the renewal process.

Blackstone Academy's renewal site visit was mostly virtual and was conducted over a two-day period in late-May 2021. To prepare for the site visit, the team, comprised of RIDE staff and SchoolWorks (outside reviewer), reviewed the charter's performance reports to date, the charter's renewal application, and programmatic and organizational documentation submitted by the school. The virtual site visit consisted of classroom observations and interviews with the charter school board, all members of the school's leadership team, teachers, parents, and students. The site visit is an integral part of the team's ability to corroborate information provided by the charter school, follow up on areas of the school's operations that are not meeting performance expectations and ensure the team has gathered information to help determine performance ratings for the Organizational and Compliance Indicators.

# Blackstone Academy

## Renewal Report | 2021

### CHARTER OVERVIEW

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Blackstone Academy Charter School is an independent charter school, serving students Pawtucket, Central Falls, and Providence. The charter opened in 2002 and can enroll up to 350 students. The school is in Pawtucket, RI and serves students in grades 9-12.

Blackstone Academy is centered on community involvement and improvement. As a graduation requirement, student must annually demonstrate successful and meaningful participation in their communities through job shadows, enrollment in their signature Community Improvement Projects (CIPs), internships, service-learning projects, and senior projects. These activities support their goal for students to gain skills that will help them to effect change in the local, regional, and/or global communities. Blackstone Academy emphasizes developing essential Habits of Mind (Collaboration, Gratitude, Community Engagement, Creativity, Grit, Humility, Optimism, Organization, “Upstanderness,” Wellness, Zest, Self-Advocacy & Integrity.) The school’s academic program and portfolio system are guided by these Habits of Mind which are used to deliver both academic and social-emotional skills to all students. Portfolio completion is required annually.

The mission of Blackstone Academy is to *“build a strong community of learners and leaders. In a small educational environment that fosters independent inquiry, teamwork, and communication, students develop the skills to solve problems and use their voice in ways that lead to success in the academic, social, and professional arenas. Students demonstrate their achievements through a process of discovery, presentation, and reflection shaped by active engagement in community life. This learning process begins with themselves, moves forward with an exploration of the local community, and ultimately integrates an understanding of the wider world as students become responsible, motivated, life-long learners.”*

# Blackstone Academy

## Renewal Report | 2021

### Enrollment Demographic Information

Descriptive demographics are based on October enrollment data reported to RIDE by the charter school and reported publicly by RIDE.

\* Indicates that data is suppressed to small sample size

	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Total Enrollment	355	351	349
Free/Reduced Lunch Eligibility	73%	75%	65%
Students Receiving Special Education Services	16%	17%	13%
Students Receiving ESL Services	6%	9%	8%
Multiracial	2%	2%	2%
African-American	27%	27%	26%
Latino/Hispanic	60%	59%	63%
Native American	<1%	<1%	0%
Asian	1%	2%	2%
Pacific Islander	<1%	<1%	<1%
White/Caucasian	10%	11%	7%

### PERFORMANCE OVERVIEW

In school year 2017-18, the school was rated approaches expectations in School Performance, and met or exceeded all Sustainability Indicators. The school meet expectations in 2018-19 and, again, met or exceeded expectation in all Sustainability Indicators. In 2019-20, the school did not test due to the COVID-19 pandemic and Rhode Island's waiving of all state testing. In SY2020-21, schools did not receive accountability ratings, still due to the impacts of the present global pandemic. Despite not having ratings for the Academic indicators, the school still met or exceeded expectations on all Sustainability Indicators throughout their charter term.

Each indicator's specific criteria ratings inform an overall indicator rating. Each charter receives a detailed annual performance report that identifies ratings for each individual criteria and overall indicators. These performance reports accompany the renewal report.

	Indicators	SY17-18	SY18-19	SY19-20	SY20-21
Academic	(1A) School Performance	A	M	NR	NR
	(1B) School Comparison	A	NA	NA	NA
Sustainability	(1) Financial	M	M	M	M
	(2) Organizational	E	E	E	E
	(3) Compliance	M	M	M	M
Renewal Process Tier		Renewal Process Tiers will not be designated for 20-21 Renewals			
Updated Tier Designation		Renewal Process Tiers will not be designated for 20-21 Renewals			

Ratings Key			
E	Exceeds Expectations	DNM	Does Not Meet Expectations
M	Meets Expectations	NR	Not Rated
A	Approaches Expectations	NA	Not Applicable

### PRIMARY INDICATOR: ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE

School Performance			
SY17-18	SY18-19	SY19-20	SY20-21
Approaches Expectations	Meets Expectations	Not Rated	Not Rated
<p><b>Summary:</b> The school in SY 17-18 was rated approaches expectations in School Performance, but the following year, SY 2018-19, the school experienced improvement in their rating as the met expectations. In 2019-20 the school did not test due to the COVID-19 pandemic and Rhode Island's waiving of all state testing.</p> <p>In 2018-19, the School's star rating was 3-stars using RIDE's accountability measures. In the 2020-21 school year, schools did not receive accountability ratings, still due to the impacts of the present global pandemic.</p> <p>Through review of documents, the charter's renewal application, and on-site interviews, there is evidence that the school utilizes internal academic data and has systems and structures in place to evaluate student achievement and address student needs. Board members received information on the PSAT/SAT including performance and strategy plans by both the Head of School and Executive Director. Board members attended workshops on the Rhode Island /ESSA Accountability system to understand the various short and long term plans they would need to make. Furthermore, they would also use these workshops to plan benchmarks they would need to establish related to the multiple measures within the system.</p>			

School Comparison			
SY17-18	SY18-19	SY19-20	SY20-21
Approaches Expectations	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
<p>This sub-indicator will only be rated if the results of the 2020-21 school year do not meet expectations in School Performance.</p> <p>In SY 17-18, the school was rated approaches expectations due to a "Does Not Meet Expectations" on the 1.B.3 Growth criterion. In SY 18-19, the school met expectations for School Performance (so a rating for this indicator was not applicable); and in SY 19-20, there were no state assessments due to the COVID-19 pandemic. In SY2020-21, schools did not receive accountability ratings</p>			



### SUSTAINABILITY INDICATOR 1

Financial Performance			
SY17-18	SY18-19	SY19-20	SY19-20
Meets Expectations	Meets Expectations	Meets Expectations	Meets Expectations
<b>Summary</b> The charter received an overall “Meets Expectations” annual rating in Financial Performance for each year of its term. Financial ratings are based primarily on the charter’s audit and therefore, financial information lags a year. For example, financial ratings for 2019-20 are based on the charter’s FY19 audit.			
<i>1.1 Current Ratio</i>	The charter met expectations each year.		
<i>1.2 Unrestricted Days of Cash</i>	The charter met expectations each year.		
<i>1.3 Debt to Asset Ratio</i>	The charter met expectations each year.		
<i>1.4 Total Margin &amp; 3-Year Aggregate Total Margin</i>	The charter met expectations each year.		
<i>1.5 Debt Service Coverage Ratio</i>	The debt service coverage ratio is not rated. The charter did not have principal and interest payments.		

### SUSTAINABILITY INDICATOR 2

Organizational Performance			
SY17-18	SY18-19	SY19-20	SY20-21
Exceeds Expectations	Exceeds Expectations	Exceeds Expectations	Exceeds Expectations
<b>Summary:</b> All annual ratings and each criterion of this indicator have been rated “Exceeds Expectations” each year.			
2.1 Organizational School-Specific Goals	Optional school-specific goals were not established.		
2.2 School Environment	<p>The charter <b>exceeded</b> expectations in this criterion in each applicable year.</p> <p><b>Student Attendance:</b> The school has had an attendance rate greater than the state’s high school attendance average. In SY 2019-20, the school’s attendance rate was 95.10%, greater than the state’s high schools average of 91.51%</p> <p><b>Family engagement:</b> The charter provided assurances of family engagement in the School-Prepared Annual Report.</p> <p>As part of the Barr Foundation High School Redesign Grant, they are able to fund full time staff position to build and coordinate the Blackstone Family Organization. Parent reps from each grade level communicate with fellow parent/guardians in both English and Spanish to systematically get feedback and let families know about opportunities to get involved in the life of the school.</p> <p>The schools site visit and document submission provided evidence that the school engages families through Family Organization Events, surveys (school surveys and SurveyWorks), quarterly phone calls home by advisors, School Report Night, college planning events (FAFSA workshops, Junior College Night, individual family meetings) meetings of the Special Education Advisory Committee, etc.</p> <p>When the school shifted to distance learning due to the COVID-19 pandemic, they hosted daily morning meetings with parents, students, and staff.</p> <p><b>Student Retention:</b> More than 80% of students enrolled at the end of the previous school year were also enrolled at the beginning of the following year.</p> <p><b>Waitlist:</b> The school’s waitlist comprises more than 50% of seats available.</p>		
2.3 Equity and Access	<p>The charter met expectations each year in this criterion.</p> <p><b>Attrition Data:</b> The charter provided assurances of attrition data analysis in the School-Prepared Annual Report. The school reported that they review their attrition</p>		

# Blackstone Academy

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	<p>data annually and look for trends. Most students who leave are moving out of state or out of our district area. If a student wants to transfer, they meet with the student and the family to ensure that they are not leaving due to any dissatisfaction with the school. The reasons for leaving are tracked on the sign-out forms signed by the principal and parent.</p> <p><b>Recruitment &amp; Lottery:</b> No outstanding issues were identified. The school provided lottery data.</p> <p><b>Applicant Pool:</b> The charter's applicant pool as submitted from the CSAR from the lottery shows applicants from Central Falls, Pawtucket and Providence</p>
2.4 Dissemination	<p>The charter <b>exceeded</b> expectations each year in this criterion.</p> <p><b>Sharing and Partnership:</b> The charter provided assurances and descriptions of work related to sharing resources and practice. The school reported they have shared their curriculum and best practices with their Barr Foundation convening throughout the year. This included at least 15 school districts/schools throughout New England including 360 and Juanita Sanchez in Rhode Island.</p> <p>Blackstone has collaborated with the School of Continuing Studies at Roger Williams University to develop and deliver the curriculum for our Non-Profit Studies class. Students enrolled in this class are eligible to receive college credit at RWU and they also fulfill one of the requirements for Blackstone's Non-Profit Studies Certificate (a special designation given at graduation and on transcripts).</p> <p>Through the school's SPIRIT Educational Program, the school partners with Shea High School as well as Times 2 Academy. Furthermore, they share service learning and project-based learning materials and techniques with multiple teachers through their Hasbro/United Way Summer Learning Initiative. Lastly, as members of the Small School Network of Facing History and Ourselves, they share materials with other members of the group.</p>
2.5 Board and Leadership Quality	<p>The charter <b>exceeded</b> expectations each year.</p> <p><b>Board &amp; School Leader Continuous Improvement:</b> The charter provided assurances of continuous improvement activities in the School-Prepared Annual Report. All Board members received information on the PSAT/SAT including performance and strategy plans by both the Head of School and Executive Director. Board members attended workshops on the Rhode Island /ESSA Accountability system in order to understand the various short and long term plans we need to make and benchmarks we need to establish related to the multiple measures within the system.</p> <p><b>Board &amp; School Leader Have Systems for Decision-making/ Communication:</b> The charter provided assurances of decision making and communication systems in the School-Prepared Annual Report.</p> <p><b>Board Holds School Leader Accountable:</b> The charter provided assurances of holding school leader(s) accountable in the School-Prepared Annual Report. School Leaders</p>

## Blackstone Academy Renewal Report | 2021

	<p>engage in annual 360 evaluations. The board also utilizes written reflections from teachers and other school community members.</p> <p><b>Board Composition:</b> There is evidence that the board represents a wide range of expertise and shows alignment to school mission wherever applicable.</p> <p>Blackstone has a strategic plan in place. During 19-20, work with the Barr Foundation added substantially to the development of this strategic plan. A Committee known as BAT (Barr Action Team) is made up of parents, students, members of each department and interest area in the school. This group met at least 6 times ensuring that the important action steps related to school redesign were occurring and helped to plan and problem solve our proficiency-based learning work throughout the year.</p>
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### SUSTAINABILITY INDICATOR 3

Compliance			
SY17-18	SY18-19	SY19-20	SY20-21
Meets Expectations	Meets Expectations	Meets Expectations	Meets Expectations
<b>Summary:</b> All criteria of this indicator have consistently been rated as “Meets expectations”.			
<i>Student Rights</i> (3.1 - 3.5)	Over the course of the term, the charter met expectations for each of the criteria associated with student rights, according to the various RIDE offices responsible for monitoring civil rights, special education, Title I and English learners. The school used RI Lottery forms, submitted charter applicant report and has policies in place for conducting fair and equitable school lottery.		
<i>Employee Management</i> (3.6 - 3.8)	The charter met expectations for each of the criteria associated with employee management to the various RIDE offices responsible for certification and educator evaluation. There is evidence from document review and the renewal site visit of established HR procedures and a board-approved employee handbook. Blackstone staff are all provided a copy of their Employee Handbook. All human resource procedures are outlined in this handbook and staff are notified that the Business Manager is responsible for HR paperwork and notifications,		
<i>Health and Safety</i> (3.9-3.12)	The charter met expectations for each of the criteria. The charter provided evidence of facilities inspections and documentation in their renewal document submissions. There are no outstanding issues that were identified in a review of the Annual School Health Report, National School Lunch Program, and the RI Nutritional Requirements. The charter provided evidence of behavior and safety policies in their renewal document submissions.		
<i>Educational Program</i> (3.13-3.16)	The charter met expectations each year. There is evidence from document review and the renewal site visit that the school is practicing the essential educational program components defined by its charter and following state and federal requirements. The charter provided evidence that curriculum is aligned to state adopted standards in their renewal document submissions and on-site. No outstanding issues were identified in education related reporting.  Blackstone Academy has a robust advisory program, which helps them achieve greater personalization and student engagement.  The school prioritizes ensuring equal access to higher education & career readiness. A scaffolded and rigorous program provides students access to higher education options.		

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## Renewal Report | 2021

	<p>Many of these students will be the first-in-the-family to attend higher education. Thorough, individualized, and intensive focus are provided through free/required college visits, a Senior Seminar class, family assistance with financial aid applications (in multiple languages), free P/SAT prep and testing, and strong college/career counseling. A four-year, individualized continuum of activities related to career readiness occurs through the advisory system, portfolio system, and curriculum, with visits to/by local non-profits, businesses, organizations, and institutions. Students have personalized exposure to career paths through participation in mandatory advisory tasks.</p> <p>Across all disciplines, alignment to standards as well as the Habits of Mind was evident.</p>
<i>School Leadership (3.17-3.19)</i>	<p>The charter met expectations in each of the criteria associated with school leadership. The board's bylaws include a committee structure and term limits. There is evidence from school assurances, document review, and the renewal site visit that the board complied with posting agendas and minutes for public meetings, public record requests and the Code of Ethics. There is evidence from document review and the renewal site visit that the board has established policies and procedures for addressing conflicts of interest and complaints.</p>
<i>Financial Management (3.20 - 3.28)</i>	<p>The charter met expectations each year. The school complied with budget submissions, quarterly financial reports, UCOA reports, and AUP audits. The school's audit was unqualified/unmodified and did not identify any significant deficiencies or weakness.</p> <p>The board received financial reports from the Business Manager at nearly board meetings. Members of the finance committee and the Treasurer monitored finances more intensively and members of the Audit Committee reviewed the 990 tax returns and audits prior to board presentations and approvals. Working individually with the Executive Director, Head of School, Business Manager and outside advisors in between full meetings, board members and others advised the rest of the board on major purchases and how they would affect cash position and expenses. Members were constantly involved in the detailed planning for the purchase of 334 Pleasant Street, including several Executive Sessions beginning 10 months prior to the purchase.</p>

On behalf of the entire Blackstone Academy community, we are pleased with Commissioner Infante-Green's recommendation for a five year "earned" renewal for our next charter term. We want to make sure that we share the specific challenges that our school and our students have faced during the Covid-19 pandemic but most importantly, the incredibly exciting work that we have been doing for most of our charter term that will continue well into the next term.

It is important to note that most of our current students spent the majority of the 2020-21 academic year and three months of the 2019-20 year learning virtually. There was no way to safely bring our full student body back in person at the start of 2020-21 and meet the requirements for safe social distancing, so we brought back only our neediest students. The three cities that we serve were the hardest hit in Rhode Island throughout the pandemic and many of our students and their families were affected by severe illness and even death related to Covid-19. At the same time, most of our parents/guardians work in positions that do not allow them to work virtually. Many of our students were unsupervised and caring for younger siblings while distance learning, and others took advantage of available work hours at the fast food and retail establishments they worked in. While we presented a virtual learning environment that was as creative and engaging as possible, we were not able to duplicate the impact of in-person learning. Due to our school's size and configuration, we were only able to open for full in-person learning (and then, it was just 2 grades at a time) in March of 2021 with a hybrid model. Despite the challenges, we had two incredible silver linings: (1) Our heroic faculty and staff worked tirelessly to revamp curriculum, master distance learning, and make themselves readily available to our students and families, and, (2) our Class of 2021 had the most students accepted and funded to prestigious colleges in our history. Many of last year's grads are currently studying at URI, CCRI and RIC but we also have 2 at Brown, 1 at Harvard, 1 at Amherst College, 2 at Holy Cross, 1 at Brandeis and 1 at Carleton College, to name a few.

Since returning to full in-person learning in September, 2021, we have confirmed that the biggest losses during the pandemic have been in social-emotional learning and developmental gains. We are making strides at re-engaging our students in learning and socialization and we are optimistic that we are making progress. Our best academic progress has always been made when the SEL needs of our students are fully met.

It was our great fortune that in late 2017, we were selected to be one of the first high schools outside of Massachusetts to be granted funds for high school redesign by the Barr Foundation, the largest private foundation in Massachusetts and a well regarded leader in educational improvement. The Barr Foundation specifically looked for high schools who had success but were looking to retool and strengthen their ability to educate all students well by utilizing the Wider Learning Ecosystem. Their approach is similar to the XQ initiative in Rhode Island and the goal is to not only improve and influence education at Blackstone Academy, but to develop and encourage models that any school could borrow from to improve student outcomes. The initial \$250,000 eighteen month planning grant led to another 3-year \$750,000 implementation grant and we have been invited to apply for a 2-year extension of the initial WLE grant, potentially adding funded support to Blackstone through the 2023-24 academic year.

Our entire academic strategic plan has and will be centered around the redesign work supported by Barr and assisted through their extensive network of collaborators. We hired Great Schools Partnership as our technical facilitator and deepened our partnership with RI's Young Voices to ensure impactful student participation. We have met quarterly with high schools from around New England as true professional learning communities and partners. All faculty and staff have been deeply involved in the redesign. Families have been engaged in new and important ways, by developing parents/guardians

as leaders and facilitators, and harnessing digital opportunities to gather easily. On-going intensive visits from Schoolspring have provided critical feedback on our progress toward our stated goals, particularly related to a focus on both rigor and relevance. We unveiled our new Portrait of a Graduate, created by the entire school-community (and translated into Spanish and Portuguese by upper level World Language students). Much of this work was accomplished during the pandemic, a testament to our focus on school wide improvement and meeting the needs of all students.

Our biggest school-wide change has been moving from a traditional grading system to a proficiency-based learning system (PBL), which produces a more authentic school-wide measure of college-career readiness across disciplines and in their external learning experiences. This has necessitated a retooling of the standards most important within individual disciplines as well as the cross-curricular standards that are essential to functioning well in higher education and careers. In-depth work on specific learning targets and scoring criteria will continue. Another part of this work has been to increase our alignment of CCSS as it manifests on the SAT, and this has included a major shift in our math curriculum by moving our Geometry/Stats course to 9th grade, and Algebra 1 to 10th grade. While the fixed time on the SAT will always be a challenge for our learners (most of whom are former MLLs), all of this work sets us up well for continued academic improvement as demonstrated through the SAT. Our efforts will also ensure that our grading system is equitable, rigorous, relevant, and that the transition to PBL is understood by students, families, and our wider community. Additionally, our intensive faculty work time has allowed us to be laser-focused on continuing to create a curriculum that is community-connected, engaging and rigorous with entry points for multiple types of learners, all of whom attend Blackstone.

We take seriously the charge that R.I. charters behave as “laboratories and vanguards” of education. Not only have we collaborated with schools within Rhode Island, including a recent visit from the Redesign Fellow and students from Mt. Pleasant High School in Providence, but the Barr Foundation has supported us to offer virtual Learning Excursions for dozens of schools around New England. Topics will include our best practices in advisory, distributed leadership, SEL school-wide, and creating a positive post-secondary culture.

As we move into our 5 year “earned” charter renewal term, we are confident that we will attain the final 2 years of the term. We have previously been awarded 3 stars in the RIDE Accountability System. In fact, we are one of the only urban, non-exam high schools to earn 3 stars in the whole state. As we look toward our fifth charter term, we see most of it already mapped out strategically. During the term, we will fully transition to Proficiency Based Learning (PBL) and be able to offer even more expansive and rigorous external learning experiences to our students. The dissemination of our model and lessons to schools around RI and elsewhere (including internationally, when our principal travels to Finland in January, 2022 as part of the Fulbright Leaders for Global Scholars program) will continue to model most of the initiatives in the new proposed high school regulations. We have a lot of work to do to address the effects of the pandemic, and we will continue to utilize the expertise within (and outside) our own faculty to refocus students on community, on learning, and on positive social-emotional growth. We hope that RIDE will proudly utilize our school as a model of on-going improvement where high achievements and engaged learning happens for all learners.

Sincerely,

Carolyn Sheehan, Executive Director  
Kyleen Carpenter, Head of School





# Charter School Annual Performance Report

## Blackstone Academy | 2016-17

### Primary Indicator: Academic Performance - School Performance

Indicator / Criteria	School's Rating	Rubric Rating Description	School Rating Detail
<b>Annual Rating</b>	<b>Meets Expectations</b>	A.1 is rated as "Meets" or "Exceeds." AND A.2 is rated as "Meets" or "Does Not Meet."	The School's composite index score was 59 and RIDE did not hold schools accountable to school specific goals in 2016-17.

### Primary Indicator: Academic Performance - School Comparison

Indicator / Criteria	School's Rating	Rubric Rating Description	School Rating Detail
<b>Annual Rating</b>	<b>Not Rated</b>		Academic Performance: School Comparison is only rated when a school receives a rating of "Approaches" or "Does Not Meet" for the Academic Performance: School Performance Annual Rating.

### Sustainability Indicator 1: Financial Performance

Indicator / Criteria	School's Rating	Rubric Rating Description	School Rating Detail
<b>Annual Rating</b>	<b>Meets Expectations</b>	For 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, and 1.5, no more than one criterion is rated as "Approaches" and all others are rated as "Meets."	All criteria of this indicator have been rated "Meets Expectations." Calculations are determined using the results of most recently available audited financial statements. For 2016-17, the ratings reflect the information in the FY16 audit for the organization.
<i>1.1 Current Ratio</i>	<b>Meets Expectations</b>	Current ratio is equal to or greater than 1.	Current ratio was 2.90.
<i>1.2 Unrestricted Days of Cash</i>	<b>Meets Expectations</b>	School has 60 days or more of unrestricted cash on hand. OR School has between 30 and	Unrestricted days of cash on hand was 127.40.



## Charter School Annual Performance Report Blackstone Academy | 2016-17

		60 days of cash and one-year trend is positive.	
<i>1.3 Debt to Asset Ratio</i>	<b>Meets Expectations</b>	School's debt to asset ratio is less than 0.90	Debt to asset ratio was 0.40.
<i>1.4 Total Margin &amp; 3-Year Aggregate Total Margin</i>	<b>Meets Expectations</b>	Aggregated three- year total margin is positive and the most recent year total margin is positive.	The most recent year's total margin was 0.15. The three year aggregate margin was 0.09.
<i>1.5 Debt Service Coverage Ratio</i>	<b>Not Rated</b>		The debt service coverage ratio is not rated. The charter did not have principal and interest payment in FY16.

### Sustainability Indicator 2: Organizational Performance

Indicator / Criteria	School's Rating	Rubric Rating Description	School Rating Detail
<b>Annual Rating</b>	<b>Meets Expectations</b>	For 2.1, 2.2, 2.4 and 2.5, no more than one criterion is rated as "Approaches" and all others are rated as "Meets" or "Exceeds." AND 2.3 is rated as "Meets."	All criteria of this indicator have been rated "Meets Expectations."
<i>2.1 Organizational School-Specific Goals</i>	<b>Not Rated</b>		School-specific goals were not established in academic year 2016-17.
<i>2.2 School Environment</i>	<b>Exceeds Expectations</b>	The school's attendance rate equal to or greater than the	<b>Student Attendance:</b> The school's attendance rate was 92.20%, greater than the state high school average of 90.88%

## Charter School Annual Performance Report

### Blackstone Academy | 2016-17

		<p>state's average attendance rate as published by RIDE and there is evidence that the school regularly engages parents and families and at least 80% of students in non-break grades* return to school the next year and the school's waitlist comprises at least 50% of available seats for the current school year.</p>	<p><b>Family engagement:</b> The charter provided assurances of family engagement in the School-Prepared Annual Report.</p> <p><b>Student Retention:</b> More than 80% of students enrolled at the end of the previous school year were also enrolled at the beginning of the following year.</p> <p><b>Waitlist:</b> The school's waitlist comprises more than 50% of seats available.</p>
2.3 Equity and Access	Meets Expectations	<p>There is evidence the school is analyzing attrition data and is using attrition analysis in decision-making including ensuring that attrition is not occurring disproportionately for specific populations. AND There is evidence that the school implements recruitment, lottery and retention policies and procedures that address all populations in their sending district. AND There is evidence that the applicant pool is representative of its sending communities, in line with the school's charter.</p>	<p><b>Attrition Data:</b> The charter provided assurances of attrition data analysis in the School-Prepared Annual Report.</p> <p><b>Recruitment &amp; Lottery:</b> No outstanding issues were identified. The school provided lottery data; lottery monitoring was not conducted for this review cycle.</p> <p><b>Applicant Pool:</b> The charter's applicant pool as submitted from the CSAR from the March 1, 2017 lottery shows applicants from Central Falls, Pawtucket and Providence.</p>
2.4 Dissemination	Meets	There is evidence that the	<b>Sharing and Partnership:</b> The charter provided assurances and

## Charter School Annual Performance Report

### Blackstone Academy | 2016-17

	<b>Expectations</b>	school shares or attempts to share curricular and/or instructional resources and/or best practices	descriptions of work related to sharing resources and practice.
<i>2.5 Board and Leadership Quality</i>	<b>Meets Expectations</b>	The board and school leader engage in strategic and continuous improvement planning by setting, and regularly monitoring progress relative to: student academic success, priorities that are aligned with the school's mission, and educational philosophy. AND The board and school leader have and implement clear and well-understood systems for decision-making and communication processes. AND There is evidence that the Board holds the school leader accountable.	<p><b>Board &amp; School Leader Continuous Improvement:</b> The charter provided assurances of continuous improvement activities in the School-Prepared Annual Report.</p> <p><b>Board &amp; School Leader Have Systems for Decision-making/Communication:</b> The charter provided assurances of decision making and communication systems in the School-Prepared Annual Report.</p> <p><b>Board Holds School Leader Accountable:</b> The charter provided assurances of holding school leader(s) accountable in the School-Prepared Annual Report.</p>

### Sustainability Indicator 3: Compliance

Indicator / Criteria	School's Rating	Rubric Rating Description	School Rating Detail
<b>Annual Rating</b>	<b>Meets Expectations</b>	All criteria associated with Federal law and regulation are rated as "Meets." AND No	All criteria of this indicator have been rated "Meets expectations."

## Charter School Annual Performance Report

### Blackstone Academy | 2016-17

		more than one criterion not associated with state law and regulation is rated as "Does Not Meet."	
<i>Student Rights</i> (3.1 - 3.5)	<b>Meets Expectations</b>	No unresolved material violations of law, regulation, rule or requirement as described in the Compliance Performance indicator.	<p><b>Office for Civil Rights:</b> No outstanding issues were identified. Per agency practice, a formal review was not conducted.</p> <p><b>IDEA:</b> No outstanding issues were identified. Per agency practice, a formal review was not conducted.</p> <p><b>English Language Learners:</b> No outstanding issues were identified as reviewed online by the Office of Student, Community and Academic Support.</p> <p><b>Title I (High Enrollment Low-Income):</b> No outstanding issues were identified. Per agency review cycle, a formal review was not conducted.</p> <p><b>Enrollment Procedures:</b> The school used RI Lottery form, submitted charter applicant report and has policies in place for conducting fair and equitable school lottery.</p>
<i>Employee Management</i> (3.6 - 3.8)	<b>Meets Expectations</b>	No unresolved material violations of law, regulation, rule or requirement as described in the Compliance Performance indicator.	<p><b>Educator Certification:</b> A review of certification compliance identified no outstanding issues.</p> <p><b>HR Procedures:</b> The charter provided assurances of documented employee rights in the employee handbook documents in their School-Prepared Annual Report.</p> <p><b>Educator Evaluation:</b> A review of educator evaluation compliance identified no outstanding issues.</p>
<i>Health and Safety</i> (3.9-3.12)	<b>Meets Expectations</b>	No unresolved material violations of law, regulation, rule or requirement as described in the Compliance Performance	<b>Facility Documentation &amp; Assurances:</b> The charter provided assurances of facilities inspections and documentation in their School-Prepared Annual Report.



## Charter School Annual Performance Report Blackstone Academy | 2016-17

		indicator.	<p><b>School Health Services:</b> No outstanding issues were identified in a review of the Annual School Health Report.</p> <p><b>Food Service:</b> No outstanding issues were identified. Per agency practice, a formal review was not conducted</p> <p><b>Behavior &amp; Safety Policies:</b> The charter provided assurances of behavior and safety policies in their School-Prepared Annual Report.</p>
<i>Educational Program (3.13-3.16)</i>	<b>Meets Expectations</b>	No unresolved material violations of law, regulation, rule or requirement as described in the Compliance Performance indicator.	<p><b>Educational Program:</b> The charter provided assurances of compliance with state, regulation and charter related educational program requirements in their School-Prepared Annual Report.</p> <p><b>Curriculum Standards:</b> The charter provided assurances that curriculum is aligned to state adopted standards in their School-Prepared Annual Report.</p> <p><b>Data Reporting:</b> No outstanding issues were identified in educational program related reporting.</p> <p><b>School Day/Length Policy:</b> The charter school provided assurances of these policies in their School-Prepared Annual Report.</p>
<i>School Leadership (3.17-3.19)</i>	<b>Meets Expectations</b>	No unresolved material violations of law, regulation, rule or requirement as described in the Compliance Performance indicator.	<p><b>Open Meetings and Ethics Policy:</b> The charter provided assurances of these policies in their School-Prepared Annual Report.</p> <p><b>Board Bylaws:</b> The charter provided assurances of these policies in their School-Prepared Annual Report.</p> <p><b>Conflict of Interest/Complaint Management:</b> The charter provided assurances of these policies in their School-Prepared Annual Report.</p>
<i>Financial Management (3.20 - 3.29)</i>	<b>Meets Expectations</b>	No unresolved material violations of law, regulation, rule	<b>Annual Budget Submission/ Revisions:</b> The charter complied with budget submissions.



## Charter School Annual Performance Report Blackstone Academy | 2016-17

		or requirement as described in the Compliance Performance indicator.	<p><b>Quarterly Financial Reporting:</b> The charter complied with Quarterly financial reports.</p> <p><b>UCOA Reporting:</b> The charter complied with required UCOA reports and AUP Audit.</p> <p><b>Annual Financial Audit:</b> The charter's audit was unqualified/unmodified and did not identify any significant deficiencies or weaknesses.</p> <p><b>Single Audit:</b> N/A</p>
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# Charter School Annual Performance Report

## Blackstone Academy | 2017-18

### Primary Indicator: Academic Performance - School Performance

Indicator / Criteria	School's Rating	Rubric Rating Description	School Rating Detail
<b>Annual Rating</b>	<b>Approaches Expectations</b>	1.A.1 is rated as "Approaches" and 1.A.2 is rated as "Exceeds," "Meets" or "Does Not Meet."	The School's star rating was 2-stars and the school did not have RIDE-approved school specific goals in 2017-18.

### Primary Indicator: Academic Performance - School Comparison

Indicator / Criteria	School’s Rating	Rubric Rating Description	School Rating Detail						
Annual Rating	Approaches Expectations	For A.2, B.2 and B.3 no more than one criterion is rated as "Does Not Meet," and all others are rated as “Approaches,” “Meets,” or “Exceeds.” OR B.1 is rated as "Approaches."	The school was rated as “Meets” on criterion 1.B.1. Criterion 1.B.2 was not rated. And the school was rated “Does Not Meet Expectations” on criterion 1.B.3.						
1.B.1 Proficiency Compared to Enrolling Districts	Meets Expectations	The weighted average proficiency rate of enrolling districts in both Math and ELA is lower than the percent of students proficient at the charter school, minus the error value.	The charter school’s percent of students proficient, including error, is below the weighted average proficiency of enrolling districts in Math. The weighted average proficiency of enrolling districts in ELA is within the charter school’s performance range.						
			Subject	School’s Proficiency	Margin of Error	Low Range - Margin of Error	High Range + Margin of Error	Weighted Average of Enrolling Districts	





## Charter School Annual Performance Report Blackstone Academy | 2017-18

			<table><tr><td>ELA</td><td>42%</td><td>5.22%</td><td>36.8%</td><td>47.2%</td><td>20.9%</td></tr><tr><td>Math</td><td>16%</td><td>3.87%</td><td>12.1%</td><td>19.9%</td><td>8.9%</td></tr></table>						ELA	42%	5.22%	36.8%	47.2%	20.9%	Math	16%	3.87%	12.1%	19.9%	8.9%
ELA	42%	5.22%	36.8%	47.2%	20.9%															
Math	16%	3.87%	12.1%	19.9%	8.9%															
1.B.2 English Language Proficiency	Not Rated		The school did not have enough EL students to make an accountability determination for this criterion																	
1.B.3 Growth	Does Not Meet Expectations	The school earned 1 point each for growth in both ELA and Math as published in the statewide school accountability system.	The school earned one point for growth in ELA, with a growth index of 0.77 out of 2 and one point for growth in Math, with a growth index of 0.74 out of 2.																	

### Sustainability Indicator 1: Financial Performance

Indicator / Criteria	School's Rating	Rubric Rating Description	School Rating Detail
<b>Annual Rating</b>	<b>Meets Expectations</b>	For 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, and 1.5, no more than one criterion is rated as "Approaches" and all others are rated as "Meets."	Calculations are determined using the results of most recently available audited financial statements. For 2017-18, the ratings reflect the information in the FY17 audit for the organization
<i>1.1 Current Ratio</i>	<b>Meets Expectations</b>	Current ratio is equal to or greater than 1.	Current ratio was 4.31.
<i>1.2 Unrestricted Days of Cash</i>	<b>Meets Expectations</b>	School has 60 days or more of unrestricted cash on hand. OR School has between 30 and 60 days of cash and one-year trend is positive.	Unrestricted days of cash on hand was 131.87.
<i>1.3 Debt to Asset Ratio</i>	<b>Meets Expectations</b>	School's debt to asset ratio is	Debt to asset ratio was 0.24.



## Charter School Annual Performance Report Blackstone Academy | 2017-18

		less than 0.90	
<i>1.4 Total Margin &amp; 3-Year Aggregate Total Margin</i>	<b>Meets Expectations</b>	Aggregated three- year total margin is positive and the most recent year total margin is positive.	The most recent year's total margin was 0.14. The three year aggregate margin was 0.126.
<i>1.5 Debt Service Coverage Ratio</i>	<b>Not Rated</b>		The debt service coverage ratio is not rated. The charter did not have principal and interest payment in FY17.

### Sustainability Indicator 2: Organizational Performance

Indicator / Criteria	School's Rating	Rubric Rating Description	School Rating Detail
<b>Annual Rating</b>	<b>Exceeds Expectations</b>	For 2.1, 2.2, 2.4 and 2.5, no more than one criterion is rated as "Meets" and all others are rated as "Exceeds." AND 2.3 is rated as "Meets."	Criterion 2.3 was rated as "Meets." all other criteria were rated as "Exceeds Expectations."
<i>2.1 Organizational School-Specific Goals</i>	<b>Not Rated</b>		School-specific goals were not established in academic year 2017-18.
<i>2.2 School Environment</i>	<b>Exceeds Expectations</b>	The school's attendance rate is greater than the state's average attendance rate as published by RIDE and there is evidence that the school regularly engages parents and families and	<b>Student Attendance:</b> The school's attendance rate was 92.64%, greater than the state high school average of 90.83% <b>Family engagement:</b> The charter provided assurances of family engagement in the School-Prepared Annual Report. <b>Student Retention:</b> More than 80% of students enrolled at the end of the previous school year were also enrolled at the beginning of the following year.

## Charter School Annual Performance Report

### Blackstone Academy | 2017-18

		at least 80% of students in non-break grades* return to school the next year and the school's waitlist comprises at least 50% of available seats for the current school year.	<b>Waitlist:</b> The school's waitlist comprises more than 50% of seats available.
2.3 Equity and Access	<b>Meets Expectations</b>	There is evidence the school is analyzing attrition data and is using attrition analysis in decision-making including ensuring that attrition is not occurring disproportionately for specific populations. AND There is evidence that the school implements recruitment, lottery and retention policies and procedures that address all populations in their sending district. AND There is evidence that the applicant pool is representative of its sending communities, in line with the school's charter.	<p><b>Attrition Data:</b> The charter provided assurances of attrition data analysis in the School-Prepared Annual Report.</p> <p><b>Recruitment &amp; Lottery:</b> No outstanding issues were identified. The school provided lottery data; lottery monitoring was not conducted for this review cycle.</p> <p><b>Applicant Pool:</b> The charter's applicant pool as submitted from the CSAR from the March 1, 2018 lottery shows applicants from Central Falls, Pawtucket and Providence.</p>
2.4 Dissemination	<b>Exceeds Expectations</b>	There is evidence that the school shares curricular and instructional resources and best practices with multiple partners or through multiple modalities.	<b>Sharing and Partnership:</b> The charter provided assurances and descriptions of work related to sharing resources and practice. Examples include: Presentations at local and national conferences; Teaching and learning collaboration (AP Biology) with Central Falls High School; Open School for educator visits as part of the League of Innovative Schools Fall Conference.

## Charter School Annual Performance Report

### Blackstone Academy | 2017-18

2.5 Board and Leadership Quality	<b>Exceeds Expectations</b>	The board and school leader engage in strategic and continuous improvement planning by setting, and regularly monitoring progress relative to: student academic success, priorities that are aligned with the school's mission, and educational philosophy. AND The board and school leader have and implement clear and well-understood systems for decision-making and communication processes. AND There is evidence that the Board holds the school leader accountable. AND There is evidence that the board represents a wide range of expertise and shows alignment to school mission	<p><b>Board &amp; School Leader Continuous Improvement:</b> The charter provided assurances of continuous improvement activities in the School-Prepared Annual Report.</p> <p><b>Board &amp; School Leader Have Systems for Decision-making/Communication:</b> The charter provided assurances of decision making and communication systems in the School-Prepared Annual Report.</p> <p><b>Board Holds School Leader Accountable:</b> The charter provided assurances of holding school leader(s) accountable in the School-Prepared Annual Report.</p> <p><b>Board Composition:</b> There is evidence that the board represents a wide range of expertise and shows alignment to school mission wherever applicable.</p>
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### Sustainability Indicator 3: Compliance

Indicator / Criteria	School's Rating	Rubric Rating Description	School Rating Detail
<b>Annual Rating</b>	<b>Meets Expectations</b>	All criteria associated with Federal law and regulation are rated as "Meets." AND No more than one	All Criteria of this indicator have been rated "Meets Expectations."

## Charter School Annual Performance Report

### Blackstone Academy | 2017-18

		<p>criterion not associated with state law and regulation is rated as "Does Not Meet."</p>	
<p><i>Student Rights</i> (3.1 - 3.5)</p>	<p><b>Meets Expectations</b></p>	<p>No unresolved material violations of law, regulation, rule or requirement as described in the Compliance Performance indicator.</p>	<p><b>3.1: Office for Civil Rights:</b> No outstanding issues were identified. Per agency practice, a formal review was not conducted.</p> <p><b>3.2: IDEA:</b> No outstanding issues were identified. Per agency practice, a formal review was not conducted.</p> <p><b>3.3: English Language Learners:</b> No outstanding issues were identified as reviewed online by the Office of Student, Community and Academic Support.</p> <p><b>3.4: Title I (High Enrollment Low-Income):</b> No outstanding issues were identified. Per agency review cycle, a formal review was not conducted.</p> <p><b>3.5: Enrollment Procedures:</b> The school used RI Lottery form, submitted charter applicant report and has policies in place for conducting fair and equitable school lottery.</p>
<p><i>Employee Management</i> (3.6 - 3.8)</p>	<p><b>Meets Expectations</b></p>	<p>No unresolved material violations of law, regulation, rule or requirement as described in the Compliance Performance indicator.</p>	<p><b>3.6: Educator Certification:</b> A review of certification compliance identified no outstanding issues.</p> <p><b>3.7: HR Procedures:</b> The charter provided assurances of documented employee rights in the employee handbook documents in their School-Prepared Annual Report.</p> <p><b>3.8: Educator Evaluation:</b> A review of educator evaluation data identified discrepancies in evaluation of building level administrators. While there are no unresolved materials violations, the discrepancies will be corrected in the following year.</p>
<p><i>Health and Safety</i> (3.9-3.12)</p>	<p><b>Meets Expectations</b></p>	<p>No unresolved material violations of law, regulation, rule or requirement as described in the Compliance</p>	<p><b>3.9: Facility Documentation &amp; Assurances:</b> The charter provided assurances of facilities inspections and documentation in their School-Prepared Annual Report.</p>

## Charter School Annual Performance Report

### Blackstone Academy | 2017-18

		Performance indicator.	<p><b>3.10: School Health Services:</b> No outstanding issues were identified in a review of the Annual School Health Report.</p> <p><b>3.11: Food Service:</b> No outstanding issues were identified. Per agency practice, a formal review was not conducted.</p> <p><b>3.12: Behavior &amp; Safety Policies:</b> The charter provided assurances of behavior and safety policies in their School-Prepared Annual Report.</p>
<i>Educational Program (3.13-3.16)</i>	<b>Meets Expectations</b>	No unresolved material violations of law, regulation, rule or requirement as described in the Compliance Performance indicator.	<p><b>3.13: Educational Program:</b> The charter provided assurances of compliance with state, regulation and charter related educational program requirements in their School-Prepared Annual Report.</p> <p><b>3.14: Curriculum Standards:</b> The charter provided assurances that curriculum is aligned to state adopted standards in their School-Prepared Annual Report.</p> <p><b>3.15: Data Reporting:</b> No outstanding issues were identified in educational program related reporting.</p> <p><b>3.16: School Day/Length Policy:</b> The charter school provided assurances of these policies in their School-Prepared Annual Report.</p>
<i>School Leadership (3.17-3.19)</i>	<b>Meets Expectations</b>	No unresolved material violations of law, regulation, rule or requirement as described in the Compliance Performance indicator.	<p><b>3.17: Open Meetings and Ethics Policy:</b> The charter provided assurances of these policies in their School-Prepared Annual Report.</p> <p><b>3.18: Board Bylaws:</b> The charter provided assurances of these policies in their School-Prepared Annual Report.</p> <p><b>3.19: Conflict of Interest/Complaint Management:</b> The charter provided assurances of these policies in their School-Prepared Annual Report.</p>

## Charter School Annual Performance Report

### Blackstone Academy | 2017-18

<i>Financial Management</i> <i>(3.20 - 3.28)</i>	<b>Meets Expectations</b>	<p>No unresolved material violations of law, regulation, rule or requirement as described in the Compliance Performance indicator.</p>	<p><b>3.20: Annual Budget Submission/ Revisions:</b> School complied with budget submissions.</p> <p><b>3.21: Quarterly Financial Reporting:</b> School complied with Quarterly financial reports.</p> <p><b>3.22-3.23: UCOA Reporting:</b> School complied with required UCOA reports and AUP Audit.</p> <p><b>3.24-3.27: Annual Financial Audit:</b> The school's audit was unqualified/unmodified and did not identify any significant deficiencies or weaknesses.</p> <p><b>3.28 Single Audit:</b> N/A</p>
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# Charter School Annual Performance Report

## Blackstone Academy | 2018-19

### Primary Indicator: Academic Performance - School Performance

Indicator / Criteria	School's Rating	Rubric Rating Description	School Rating Detail
<b>Annual Rating</b>	<b>Meets Expectations</b>	3-star school OR 4-star school that is not at the 5-star level for both Achievement and Growth	The School's star rating was 3-stars and the school did not have RIDE-approved school specific goals in 2018-19.

### Primary Indicator: Academic Performance - School Comparison

Indicator / Criteria	School's Rating	Rubric Rating Description	School Rating Detail
<b>Annual Rating</b>	<b>Not Rated</b>		Academic Performance: School Comparison is only rated when a school receives a rating of "Approaches" or "Does Not Meet" for the Academic Performance: School Performance Annual Rating.

### Sustainability Indicator 1: Financial Performance

Indicator / Criteria	School's Rating	Rubric Rating Description	School Rating Detail
<b>Annual Rating</b>	<b>Meets Expectations</b>	For 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, and 1.5, no more than one criterion is rated as "Approaches" and all others are rated as "Meets."	Calculations are determined using the results of most recently available audited financial statements. For 2018-19, the ratings reflect the information in the FY18 audit for the organization
<i>1.1 Current Ratio</i>	<b>Meets Expectations</b>	Current ratio is equal to or greater than 1.	Current ratio was 5.24.
<i>1.2 Unrestricted Days</i>	<b>Meets Expectations</b>	School has 60 days or more of	Unrestricted days of cash on hand was 183.68





## Charter School Annual Performance Report Blackstone Academy | 2018-19

<i>of Cash</i>		unrestricted cash on hand. OR School has between 30 and 60 days of cash and one-year trend is positive.	
<i>1.3 Debt to Asset Ratio</i>	<b>Meets Expectations</b>	School's debt to asset ratio is less than 0.90	Debt to asset ratio was 0.21.
<i>1.4 Total Margin &amp; 3-Year Aggregate Total Margin</i>	<b>Meets Expectations</b>	Aggregated three- year total margin is positive and the most recent year total margin is positive.	The most recent year's total margin was 0.150. The three year aggregate margin was 0.147.
<i>1.5 Debt Service Coverage Ratio</i>	<b>Not Rated</b>		The debt service coverage ratio is not rated. The charter did not have principal and interest payment in FY18.

### Sustainability Indicator 2: Organizational Performance

Indicator / Criteria	School's Rating	Rubric Rating Description	School Rating Detail
<b>Annual Rating</b>	<b>Exceeds Expectations</b>	For 2.1, 2.2, 2.4 and 2.5, no more than one criterion is rated as "Meets" and all others are rated as "Exceeds." AND 2.3 is rated as "Meets."	Criterion 2.3 was rated as "Meets." all other criteria were rated as "Exceeds Expectations."
<i>2.1 Organizational School-Specific Goals</i>	<b>Not Rated</b>		School-specific goals were not established in academic year 2018-19.

## Charter School Annual Performance Report

### Blackstone Academy | 2018-19

2.2 <i>School Environment</i>	<b>Exceeds Expectations</b>	The school's attendance rate is greater than the state's average attendance rate as published by RIDE and there is evidence that the school regularly engages parents and families and at least 80% of students in non-break grades* return to school the next year and the school's waitlist comprises at least 50% of available seats for the current school year.	<p><b>Student Attendance:</b> The school's attendance rate was 93.04%, greater than the state high school average of 90.91%</p> <p><b>Family engagement:</b> The charter provided assurances of family engagement in the School-Prepared Annual Report.</p> <p><b>Student Retention:</b> More than 80% of students enrolled at the end of the previous school year were also enrolled at the beginning of the following year.</p> <p><b>Waitlist:</b> The school's waitlist comprises more than 50% of seats available.</p>
2.3 <i>Equity and Access</i>	<b>Meets Expectations</b>	There is evidence the school is analyzing attrition data and is using attrition analysis in decision-making including ensuring that attrition is not occurring disproportionately for specific populations. AND There is evidence that the school implements recruitment, lottery and retention policies and procedures that address all populations in their sending district. AND There is evidence that the applicant pool is representative of its sending communities, in line with the school's charter.	<p><b>Attrition Data:</b> The charter provided assurances of attrition data analysis in the School-Prepared Annual Report.</p> <p><b>Recruitment &amp; Lottery:</b> No outstanding issues were identified. The school provided lottery data; lottery monitoring was not conducted for this review cycle.</p> <p><b>Applicant Pool:</b> The charter's applicant pool as submitted from the CSAR from the March 1, 2019 lottery shows applicants from Central Falls, Pawtucket and Providence.</p>

## Charter School Annual Performance Report

### Blackstone Academy | 2018-19

2.4 Dissemination	Exceeds Expectations	There is evidence that the school shares curricular and instructional resources and best practices with multiple partners or through multiple modalities.	<b>Sharing and Partnership:</b> The charter provided assurances and descriptions of work related to sharing resources and practice. Examples include: Barr Foundation meetings throughout the year. This included at least 15 school districts/schools throughout New England including local high schools in Rhode Island.
2.5 Board and Leadership Quality	Exceeds Expectations	The board and school leader engage in strategic and continuous improvement planning by setting, and regularly monitoring progress relative to: student academic success, priorities that are aligned with the school's mission, and educational philosophy. AND The board and school leader have and implement clear and well-understood systems for decision-making and communication processes. AND There is evidence that the Board holds the school leader accountable. AND There is evidence that the board represents a wide range of expertise and shows alignment to school mission	<p><b>Board &amp; School Leader Continuous Improvement:</b> The charter provided assurances of continuous improvement activities in the School-Prepared Annual Report.</p> <p><b>Board &amp; School Leader Have Systems for Decision-making/Communication:</b> The charter provided assurances of decision making and communication systems in the School-Prepared Annual Report.</p> <p><b>Board Holds School Leader Accountable:</b> The charter provided assurances of holding school leader(s) accountable in the School-Prepared Annual Report.</p> <p><b>Board Composition:</b> There is evidence that the board represents a wide range of expertise and shows alignment to school mission wherever applicable.</p>

### Sustainability Indicator 3: Compliance

## Charter School Annual Performance Report Blackstone Academy | 2018-19

Indicator / Criteria	School's Rating	Rubric Rating Description	School Rating Detail
<b>Annual Rating</b>	<b>Meets Expectations</b>	All criteria associated with Federal law and regulation are rated as "Meets." AND No more than one criterion not associated with state law and regulation is rated as "Does Not Meet."	All Criteria of this indicator have been rated "Meets Expectations."
<i>Student Rights</i> (3.1 - 3.5)	<b>Meets Expectations</b>	No unresolved material violations of law, regulation, rule or requirement as described in the Compliance Performance indicator.	<p><b>3.1: Office for Civil Rights:</b> No outstanding issues were identified. Per agency practice, a formal review was not conducted.</p> <p><b>3.2: IDEA:</b> No outstanding issues were identified. Per agency practice, a formal review was not conducted.</p> <p><b>3.3: English Language Learners:</b> No outstanding issues were identified as reviewed online by the Office of Student, Community and Academic Support.</p> <p><b>3.4: Title I (High Enrollment Low-Income):</b> No outstanding issues were identified. Per agency review cycle, a formal review was not conducted.</p> <p><b>3.5: Enrollment Procedures:</b> The school used RI Lottery form, submitted charter applicant report and has policies in place for conducting fair and equitable school lottery.</p>
<i>Employee Management</i> (3.6 - 3.8)	<b>Meets Expectations</b>	No unresolved material violations of law, regulation, rule or requirement as described in the Compliance Performance indicator.	<p><b>3.6: Educator Certification:</b> A review of certification compliance identified no outstanding issues.</p> <p><b>3.7: HR Procedures:</b> The charter provided assurances of documented employee rights in the employee handbook documents in their School-Prepared Annual Report.</p> <p><b>3.8: Educator Evaluation:</b> A review of educator evaluation data identified discrepancies in evaluation of building level administrators. While there are no unresolved materials violations,</p>

## Charter School Annual Performance Report

### Blackstone Academy | 2018-19

			the discrepancies will be corrected in the following year.
<i>Health and Safety (3.9-3.12)</i>	<b>Meets Expectations</b>	No unresolved material violations of law, regulation, rule or requirement as described in the Compliance Performance indicator.	<p><b>3.9: Facility Documentation &amp; Assurances:</b> The charter provided assurances of facilities inspections and documentation in their School-Prepared Annual Report.</p> <p><b>3.10: School Health Services:</b> No outstanding issues were identified in a review of the Annual School Health Report.</p> <p><b>3.11: Food Service:</b> No outstanding issues were identified. Per agency practice, a formal review was not conducted.</p> <p><b>3.12: Behavior &amp; Safety Policies:</b> The charter provided assurances of behavior and safety policies in their School-Prepared Annual Report.</p>
<i>Educational Program (3.13-3.16)</i>	<b>Meets Expectations</b>	No unresolved material violations of law, regulation, rule or requirement as described in the Compliance Performance indicator.	<p><b>3.13: Educational Program:</b> The charter provided assurances of compliance with state, regulation and charter related educational program requirements in their School-Prepared Annual Report.</p> <p><b>3.14: Curriculum Standards:</b> The charter provided assurances that curriculum is aligned to state adopted standards in their School-Prepared Annual Report.</p> <p><b>3.15: Data Reporting:</b> No outstanding issues were identified in educational program related reporting.</p> <p><b>3.16: School Day/Length Policy:</b> The charter school provided assurances of these policies in their School-Prepared Annual Report.</p>
<i>School Leadership (3.17-3.19)</i>	<b>Meets Expectations</b>	No unresolved material violations of law, regulation, rule or requirement as described in the Compliance Performance indicator.	<p><b>3.17: Open Meetings and Ethics Policy:</b> The charter provided assurances of these policies in their School-Prepared Annual Report.</p> <p><b>3.18: Board Bylaws:</b> The charter provided assurances of these</p>



## Charter School Annual Performance Report

### Blackstone Academy | 2018-19

			<p>policies in their School-Prepared Annual Report.</p> <p><b>3.19: Conflict of Interest/Complaint Management:</b> The charter provided assurances of these policies in their School-Prepared Annual Report.</p>
<p><i>Financial Management</i> (3.20 - 3.28)</p>	<p><b>Meets Expectations</b></p>	<p>No unresolved material violations of law, regulation, rule or requirement as described in the Compliance Performance indicator.</p>	<p><b>3.20: Annual Budget Submission/ Revisions:</b> School complied with budget submissions.</p> <p><b>3.21: Quarterly Financial Reporting:</b> School complied with Quarterly financial reports.</p> <p><b>3.22-3.23: UCOA Reporting:</b> School complied with required UCOA reports and AUP Audit.</p> <p><b>3.24-3.27: Annual Financial Audit:</b> The school's audit was unqualified/unmodified and did not identify any significant deficiencies or weaknesses.</p> <p><b>3.28 Single Audit:</b> N/A</p>



# Charter School Annual Performance Report

## Blackstone Academy | 2019-20

### Primary Indicator: Academic Performance - School Performance

Indicator / Criteria	School's Rating	Rubric Rating Description	School Rating Detail
<b>Annual Rating</b>	<b>Not Rated</b>		Due to COVID there was no state testing in 2019-20.

### Primary Indicator: Academic Performance - School Comparison

Indicator / Criteria	School's Rating	Rubric Rating Description	School Rating Detail
<b>Annual Rating</b>	<b>Not Rated</b>		Due to COVID there was no state testing in 2019-20.

### Sustainability Indicator 1: Financial Performance

Indicator / Criteria	School's Rating	Rubric Rating Description	School Rating Detail
<b>Annual Rating</b>	<b>Meets Expectations</b>	For 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, and 1.5, no more than one criterion is rated as "Approaches" and all others are rated as "Meets."	Calculations are determined using the results of most recently available audited financial statements. For 2019-20, the ratings reflect the information in the FY19 audit for the organization
<i>1.1 Current Ratio</i>	<b>Meets Expectations</b>	Current ratio is equal to or greater than 1.	Current ratio was 4.37.
<i>1.2 Unrestricted Days of Cash</i>	<b>Meets Expectations</b>	School has 60 days or more of unrestricted cash on hand. OR School has between 30 and 60 days of cash and one-year trend is positive.	Unrestricted days of cash on hand was 140.90
<i>1.3 Debt to Asset Ratio</i>	<b>Meets Expectations</b>	School's debt to asset ratio is	Debt to asset ratio was 0.20.

## Charter School Annual Performance Report Blackstone Academy | 2019-20

		less than 0.90	
<i>1.4 Total Margin &amp; 3-Year Aggregate Total Margin</i>	<b>Meets Expectations</b>	Aggregated three- year total margin is positive, and the most recent year total margin is positive.	The most recent year's total margin was 0.027. The three-year aggregate margin was 0.104.
<i>1.5 Debt Service Coverage Ratio</i>	<b>Not Rated</b>		The debt service coverage ratio is not rated. The charter did not have principal and interest payment in FY19.

### Sustainability Indicator 2: Organizational Performance

Indicator / Criteria	School's Rating	Rubric Rating Description	School Rating Detail
<b>Annual Rating</b>	<b>Exceeds Expectations</b>	For 2.1, 2.2, 2.4 and 2.5, no more than one criterion is rated as "Meets" and all others are rated as "Exceeds." AND 2.3 is rated as "Meets."	Criterion 2.3 was rated as "Meets." all other criteria were rated as "Exceeds Expectations."
<i>2.1 Organizational School-Specific Goals</i>	<b>Not Rated</b>		School-specific goals were not established in academic year 2019-20.
<i>2.2 School Environment</i>	<b>Exceeds Expectations</b>	There is evidence that the school regularly engages parents and families and at least 80% of students in non-break grades* return to school the next year and the school's waitlist comprises at	<p><b>Student Attendance:</b> The school's attendance rate was 95.10%, greater than the state high school average of 91.52% (Attendance measures are not rated for accountability in SY2019-20)</p> <p><b>Family engagement:</b> The charter provided assurances of family engagement in the School-Prepared Annual Report.</p> <p><b>Student Retention:</b> More than 80% of students enrolled at the end of the previous school year were also enrolled at the beginning of the following year.</p>



## Charter School Annual Performance Report

### Blackstone Academy | 2019-20

		least 50% of available seats for the current school year.	<b>Waitlist:</b> The school's waitlist comprises more than 50% of seats available.
<i>2.3 Equity and Access</i>	<b>Meets Expectations</b>	<p>There is evidence the school is analyzing attrition data and is using attrition analysis in decision-making including ensuring that attrition is not occurring disproportionately for specific populations. AND There is evidence that the school implements recruitment, lottery and retention policies and procedures that address all populations in their sending district. AND</p> <p>There is evidence that the applicant pool is representative of its sending communities, in line with the school's charter.</p>	<p><b>Attrition Data:</b> The charter provided assurances of attrition data analysis in the School-Prepared Annual Report. The school reported that they review their attrition data annually and look for trends. Most students who leave are moving out of state or out of our district area. If a student wants to transfer, they meet with the student and the family to ensure that they are not leaving due to any dissatisfaction with the school. The reason for leaving are tracked on the sign-out forms signed by the principal and parent.</p> <p><b>Recruitment &amp; Lottery:</b> No outstanding issues were identified. The school provided lottery data; lottery monitoring was not conducted for this review cycle.</p> <p><b>Applicant Pool:</b> The charter's applicant pool as submitted from the CSAR from the 2020 lottery shows applicants from Central Falls, Pawtucket and Providence.</p>
<i>2.4 Dissemination</i>	<b>Exceeds Expectations</b>	There is evidence that the school shares curricular and instructional resources and best practices with multiple partners or through multiple modalities.	<b>Sharing and Partnership:</b> The charter provided assurances and descriptions of work related to sharing resources and practice. The school reported they have shared their curriculum and best practices with their Barr Foundation convenings throughout the year. This included at least 15 school districts/schools throughout New England including 360 and Juanita Sanchez in Rhode Island.
<i>2.5 Board and Leadership Quality</i>	<b>Exceeds Expectations</b>	The board and school leader engage in strategic and continuous improvement	<b>Board &amp; School Leader Continuous Improvement:</b> The charter provided assurances of continuous improvement activities in the School-Prepared Annual Report.

## Charter School Annual Performance Report Blackstone Academy | 2019-20

		<p>planning by setting, and regularly monitoring progress relative to: student academic success, priorities that are aligned with the school's mission, and educational philosophy. AND The board and school leader have and implement clear and well-understood systems for decision-making and communication processes. AND There is evidence that the Board holds the school leader accountable. AND There is evidence that the board represents a wide range of expertise and shows alignment to school mission</p>	<p><b>Board &amp; School Leader Have Systems for Decision-making/ Communication:</b> The charter provided assurances of decision making and communication systems in the School-Prepared Annual Report.</p> <p><b>Board Holds School Leader Accountable:</b> The charter provided assurances of holding school leader(s) accountable in the School-Prepared Annual Report.</p> <p><b>Board Composition:</b> There is evidence that the board represents a wide range of expertise and shows alignment to school mission wherever applicable.</p>
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### Sustainability Indicator 3: Compliance

Indicator / Criteria	School's Rating	Rubric Rating Description	School Rating Detail
<b>Annual Rating</b>	<b>Meets Expectations</b>	All criteria associated with Federal law and regulation are rated as "Meets." AND No more than one criterion not associated with state law and regulation is rated as "Does Not Meet."	All Criteria of this indicator have been rated "Meets Expectations."

## Charter School Annual Performance Report

### Blackstone Academy | 2019-20

<i>Student Rights (3.1 - 3.5)</i>	<b>Meets Expectations</b>	No unresolved material violations of law, regulation, rule or requirement as described in the Compliance Performance indicator.	<p><b>3.1: Office for Civil Rights:</b> No outstanding issues were identified. Per agency practice, a formal review was not conducted.</p> <p><b>3.2: IDEA:</b> No outstanding issues were identified. Per agency practice, a formal review was not conducted.</p> <p><b>3.3: English Language Learners:</b> No outstanding issues were identified as reviewed online by the Office of Student, Community and Academic Support.</p> <p><b>3.4: Title I (High Enrollment Low-Income):</b> No outstanding issues were identified. Per agency review cycle, a formal review was not conducted.</p> <p><b>3.5: Enrollment Procedures:</b> The school used RI Lottery form, submitted charter applicant report and has policies in place for conducting fair and equitable school lottery.</p>
<i>Employee Management (3.6 - 3.8)</i>	<b>Meets Expectations</b>	No unresolved material violations of law, regulation, rule or requirement as described in the Compliance Performance indicator.	<p><b>3.6: Educator Certification:</b> A review of certification compliance identified no outstanding issues.</p> <p><b>3.7: HR Procedures:</b> The charter provided assurances of documented employee rights in the employee handbook documents in their School-Prepared Annual Report.</p> <p><b>3.8: Educator Evaluation:</b> A review of educator evaluation data identified discrepancies in evaluation of building level administrators. While there are no unresolved materials violations, the discrepancies will be corrected in the following year.</p>
<i>Health and Safety (3.9-3.12)</i>	<b>Meets Expectations</b>	No unresolved material violations of law, regulation, rule or requirement as described in the Compliance Performance indicator.	<p><b>3.9: Facility Documentation &amp; Assurances:</b> The charter provided assurances of facilities inspections and documentation in their School-Prepared Annual Report.</p> <p><b>3.10: School Health Services:</b> No outstanding issues were identified in a review of the Annual School Health Report.</p> <p><b>3.11: Food Service:</b> No outstanding issues were identified. Per agency practice, a formal review was not conducted.</p>

## Charter School Annual Performance Report

### Blackstone Academy | 2019-20

			<b>3.12: Behavior &amp; Safety Policies:</b> The charter provided assurances of behavior and safety policies in their School-Prepared Annual Report.
<i>Educational Program</i> (3.13-3.16)	<b>Meets Expectations</b>	No unresolved material violations of law, regulation, rule or requirement as described in the Compliance Performance indicator.	<b>3.13: Educational Program:</b> The charter provided assurances of compliance with state, regulation and charter related educational program requirements in their School-Prepared Annual Report. <b>3.14: Curriculum Standards:</b> The charter provided assurances that curriculum is aligned to state adopted standards in their School-Prepared Annual Report. <b>3.15: Data Reporting:</b> No outstanding issues were identified in educational program related reporting. <b>3.16: School Day/Length Policy:</b> The charter school provided assurances of these policies in their School-Prepared Annual Report.
<i>School Leadership</i> (3.17-3.19)	<b>Meets Expectations</b>	No unresolved material violations of law, regulation, rule or requirement as described in the Compliance Performance indicator.	<b>3.17: Open Meetings and Ethics Policy:</b> The charter provided assurances of these policies in their School-Prepared Annual Report. <b>3.18: Board Bylaws:</b> The charter provided assurances of these policies in their School-Prepared Annual Report. <b>3.19: Conflict of Interest/Complaint Management:</b> The charter provided assurances of these policies in their School-Prepared Annual Report.
<i>Financial Management</i> (3.20 - 3.28)	<b>Meets Expectations</b>	No unresolved material violations of law, regulation, rule or requirement as described in the Compliance Performance indicator.	<b>3.20: Annual Budget Submission/ Revisions:</b> School complied with budget submissions. <b>3.21: Quarterly Financial Reporting:</b> School complied with Quarterly financial reports.



## Charter School Annual Performance Report Blackstone Academy | 2019-20

			<p><b>3.22-3.23: UCOA Reporting:</b> School complied with required UCOA reports and AUP Audit.</p> <p><b>3.24-3.27: Annual Financial Audit:</b> The school's audit was unqualified/unmodified and did not identify any significant deficiencies or weaknesses.</p> <p><b>3.28 Single Audit:</b> N/A</p>
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# Charter School Annual Performance Report

## Blackstone Academy | 2020-21

### Primary Indicator: Academic Performance - School Performance

Indicator / Criteria	School's Rating	Rubric Rating Description	School Rating Detail
<b>Annual Rating</b>	<b>Not Rated</b>		In 2020-21, schools did not receive a star rating in the state's accountability system.

### Sustainability Indicator 1: Financial Performance

Indicator / Criteria	School's Rating	Rubric Rating Description	School Rating Detail
<b>Annual Rating</b>	<b>Meets Expectations</b>	For 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, and 1.5, no more than one criterion is rated as "Approaches" and all others are rated as "Meets."	All criteria of this indicator have been rated "Meets Expectations."  Calculations are determined using the results of most recently available audited financial statements. For 2020-21, the ratings reflect the information in the FY20 audit for the organization.
<i>1.1 Current Ratio</i>	<b>Meets Expectations</b>	Current ratio is equal to or greater than 1.	Current ratio was 4.83
<i>1.2 Unrestricted Days of Cash</i>	<b>Meets Expectations</b>	School has 60 days or more of unrestricted cash on hand. OR School has between 30 and 60 days of cash and one-year trend is positive.	Unrestricted days of cash on hand was 175.48
<i>1.3 Debt to Asset Ratio</i>	<b>Meets Expectations</b>	School's debt to asset ratio is less than 0.90	Debt to asset ratio was 0.18
<i>1.4 Total Margin &amp; 3-Year Aggregate Total Margin</i>	<b>Meets Expectations</b>	Aggregated three- year total margin is positive, and the most recent year total margin is positive.	The most recent year's total margin was 0.048. The three-year aggregate margin was 0.074
<i>1.5 Debt Service Coverage Ratio</i>	<b>Meets Expectations</b>	School's debt to asset ratio is greater than or less than 1.1	Debt service coverage ratio was 3.08

# Charter School Annual Performance Report

## Blackstone Academy | 2020-21

### Sustainability Indicator 2: Organizational Performance

Indicator / Criteria	School's Rating	Rubric Rating Description	School Rating Detail
<b>Annual Rating</b>	<b>Exceeds Expectations</b>	For 2.1, 2.2, 2.4 and 2.5, no more than one criterion is rated as "Meet" and all others are rated as "Exceeds." AND 2.3 is rated as "Meets."	Criterion 2.2, 2.4 and 2.5 "Exceed Expectations," and 2.3 "Meets Expectations."
<i>2.1 Organizational School-Specific Goals</i>	<b>Not Rated</b>		School-specific goals were not established.
<i>2.2 School Environment</i>	<b>Exceeds Expectations</b>	There is evidence that the school regularly engages parents and families. AND At least 80% of students in non-break grades return to school the next year.  To exceed means meeting all the above, plus the school's waitlist comprises at least 50% of available seats for the current school year.	<b>Student Attendance:</b> (Attendance measures are not rated for accountability in SY2020-21) <b>Family engagement:</b> The charter provided assurances of family engagement in the School-Prepared Annual Report. Blackstone held Family Organization Events virtually in 2020-21 - and noted that it increased family attendance measurably. Events included quarterly phone calls home by advisors; School Report Night; college planning events (FAFSA workshops, Junior College Night, individual family meetings) meetings of the Special Education Advisory Committee; and parent members of the Barr Foundation Design Team. They also held a Gratitude Fest event in December of 2020. They did virtual meetings by grade level which included presentations (in English and Spanish) by Class Deans, teachers, and administrators. Class Deans were able to share with

## Charter School Annual Performance Report

### Blackstone Academy | 2020-21

			<p>families the unique focus at each grade level for their curriculum and external learning expectations.</p> <p><b>Student Retention:</b> More than 80% of students enrolled at the end of the previous school year were also enrolled at the beginning of the following year.</p> <p><b>Waitlist:</b> The school's waitlist comprises more than 50% of seats available.</p>
2.3 Equity and Access	Meets Expectations	<p>There is evidence the school is analyzing attrition data and is using attrition analysis in decision-making including ensuring that attrition is not occurring disproportionately for specific populations. AND There is evidence that the school implements recruitment, lottery and retention policies and procedures that address all populations in their sending district. AND There is evidence that the applicant pool is representative of its sending communities, in line with the school's charter.</p>	<p><b>Attrition Data:</b> The charter provided assurances of attrition data analysis in the School-Prepared Annual Report</p> <p><b>Recruitment &amp; Lottery:</b> No outstanding issues were identified. The school provided lottery data; lottery monitoring was not conducted for this review cycle.</p> <p><b>Applicant Pool:</b> The charter's applicant pool as submitted from the CSAR from the 2021 lottery shows applicants from Providence, Pawtucket, and Central Falls.</p>
2.4 Dissemination	Exceeds Expectations	<p>There is evidence that the school shares or attempts to share curricular and/or instructional resources and/or best practices</p>	<p><b>Sharing and Partnership:</b> The charter provided assurances and descriptions of work related to sharing resources and practice.</p> <p>For example, they have shared their curriculum and best practices through Barr Foundation convenings throughout the year. This included at least 14 school districts/schools throughout</p>



## Charter School Annual Performance Report

### Blackstone Academy | 2020-21

			<p>New England. Based on the feedback from the 2020 Barr Foundation Wider Learning Ecosystem Fall Convening (where Blackstone was the highlighted school) and their assessment of our practices over the last few years, the Barr Foundation asked Next Generation Learning Challenge (NGLC) to author a series of written profiles and podcasts about Blackstone Academy. These profiles highlight best established and emerging practices are intended to be available to schools across the country to be able to access as they consider redesign work. Over the 2020-21 academic year, they worked with NGLC to craft the content of these publications and now they are available to a national audience.</p>
2.5 Board and Leadership Quality	Exceeds Expectations	<p>The board and school leader engage in strategic and continuous improvement planning by setting, and regularly monitoring progress relative to: student academic success, priorities that are aligned with the school's mission, and educational philosophy. AND The board and school leader have and implement clear and well-understood systems for decision-making and communication processes. AND There is evidence that the Board holds the school leader accountable. AND There is evidence that the board represents a wide range of expertise and shows alignment to school</p>	<p><b>Board &amp; School Leader Continuous Improvement:</b> The charter provided assurances of continuous improvement activities in the School-Prepared Annual Report.</p> <p><b>Board &amp; School Leader Have Systems for Decision-making/Communication:</b> The charter provided assurances of decision making and communication systems in the School-Prepared Annual Report.</p> <p><b>Board Holds School Leader Accountable:</b> The charter provided assurances of holding school leader(s) accountable in the School-Prepared Annual Report.</p> <p><b>Board Composition:</b> There is evidence from the School-Prepared Annual Report that members of the board are comprised of leaders in finance, business, and non-profit management across the Blackstone region. Additionally, the board includes graduates of Blackstone Academy.</p>

# Charter School Annual Performance Report

## Blackstone Academy | 2020-21

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### Sustainability Indicator 3: Compliance

Indicator / Criteria	School's Rating	Rubric Rating Description	School Rating Detail
<b>Annual Rating</b>	<b>Meets Expectations</b>	All criteria associated with Federal law and regulation are rated as "Meets." AND no more than one criterion not associated with state law and regulation is rated as "Does Not Meet."	All Criteria of this indicator have been rated "Meets Expectations."
<i>Student Rights (3.1 - 3.5)</i>	<b>Meets Expectations</b>	No unresolved material violations of law, regulation, rule, or requirement as described in the Compliance Performance indicator.	<p><b>3.1: Office for Civil Rights:</b> No outstanding issues were identified. Per agency practice, a formal review was not conducted.</p> <p><b>3.2: IDEA:</b> No outstanding issues were identified. Per agency practice, a formal review was not conducted.</p> <p><b>3.3: English Language Learners:</b> No outstanding issues were identified as reviewed online by the Office of Student, Community and Academic Support.</p> <p><b>3.4: Title I (High Enrollment Low-Income):</b> No outstanding issues were identified. Per agency review cycle, a formal review was not conducted.</p> <p><b>3.5: Enrollment Procedures:</b> The school used RI Lottery form, submitted charter applicant report and has policies in place for conducting fair and equitable school lottery.</p>
<i>Employee Management (3.6 - 3.8)</i>	<b>Meets Expectations</b>	No unresolved material violations of law, regulation, rule, or requirement as described in the Compliance Performance indicator.	<p><b>3.6 Educator Certification:</b> A review of certification compliance identified no outstanding issues.</p> <p><b>3.7 HR Procedures:</b> The charter provided assurances of documented employee rights in the employee handbook documents in their School-Prepared Annual Report.</p> <p><b>3.8: Educator Evaluation:</b> A review has found no outstanding issues.</p>

## Charter School Annual Performance Report Blackstone Academy | 2020-21

<i>Health and Safety (3.9-3.12)</i>	<b>Meets Expectations</b>	No unresolved material violations of law, regulation, rule, or requirement as described in the Compliance Performance indicator.	<b>3.9: Facility Documentation &amp; Assurances:</b> The charter provided assurances of facilities inspections and documentation in their School-Prepared Annual Report. <b>3.10: School Health Services:</b> No outstanding issues were identified in a review of the Annual School Health Report. <b>3.11: Food Service:</b> No outstanding issues were identified. Per agency practice, a formal review was not conducted. <b>3.12: Behavior &amp; Safety Policies:</b> The charter provided assurances of behavior and safety policies in their School-Prepared Annual Report.
<i>Educational Program (3.13-3.16)</i>	<b>Meets Expectations</b>	No unresolved material violations of law, regulation, rule, or requirement as described in the Compliance Performance indicator.	<b>3.13: Educational Program:</b> The charter provided assurances of compliance with state, regulation and charter related educational program requirements in their School-Prepared Annual Report. <b>3.14: Curriculum Standards:</b> The charter provided assurances that curriculum is aligned to state adopted standards in their School-Prepared Annual Report. <b>3.15: Data Reporting:</b> No outstanding issues were identified in educational program related reporting. <b>3.16: School Day/Length Policy:</b> The charter school provided assurances of these policies in their School-Prepared Annual Report.
<i>School Leadership (3.17-3.19)</i>	<b>Meets Expectations</b>	No unresolved material violations of law, regulation, rule, or requirement as described in the Compliance Performance indicator.	<b>3.17: Open Meetings and Ethics Policy:</b> The charter provided assurances of these policies in their School-Prepared Annual Report. <b>3.18: Board Bylaws:</b> The charter provided assurances of these policies in their School-Prepared Annual Report. <b>3.19: Conflict of Interest/Complaint Management:</b> The charter provided assurances of these policies in their School-Prepared Annual Report.

## Charter School Annual Performance Report Blackstone Academy | 2020-21

<i>Financial Management</i> (3.20 - 3.28)	<b>Meets Expectations</b>	No unresolved material violations of law, regulation, rule, or requirement as described in the Compliance Performance indicator.	<p><b>3.20: Annual Budget Submission/ Revisions:</b> School complied with budget submissions.</p> <p><b>3.21: Quarterly Financial Reporting:</b> School complied with Quarterly financial reports.</p> <p><b>3.22-3.23: UCOA Reporting:</b> School complied with required UCOA reports and AUP Audit.</p> <p><b>3.24-3.27: Annual Financial Audit:</b> The school's audit was unqualified/unmodified and did not identify any significant deficiencies or weaknesses.</p> <p><b>3.28 Single Audit:</b> The charter received an unmodified single audit.</p>
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